

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, SCUL, CA

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST LAW 22

1. SUMMARY. LA GRANDE MARCHE DU QUEBEC FRANCAIS, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 SAW FROM A FEW THOUSAND TO 16,000 , DEPENDING ON SOURCE, DEMONSTRATORS MARCH FOR TWO TO THREE HOURS IN AREA BETWEEN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND GRAND THEATRE.

ALTHOUGH MARCHERS HECKLED LIBERALS ATTENDING FUND RAISING DINNER ADDRESSED BY PREMIER BOURASSA AND DEFACED SOME STATUES WITH SLOGANS, MARCH WAS GENERALLY ORDERLY AND THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES AND NO ARRESTS. MARCHERS HAD OWN MARSHALS AND EXCEPT FOR ONE DEMONSTRATION OF FORCE AT GRAND THEATRE BY RIOT SQUAD, POLICE WERE RELATIVELY FEW IN NUMBER AND HAD NEITHER HELMETS, NIGHT-STICKS NOR OTHER VISIBLE WEAPONS. DEMONSTRATORS LATER MOVED ON TO RALLY AT QUEBEC COLISEUM. LOCAL RADIO PROVIDED LIVE COVERAGE PERIODICALLY: MONTREAL GAZETTE OCTOBER 21 COVERED BRIEFLY. LE SOLEIL SAME DATE CARRIED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE INTERESTING FOR REPORT OF BOURASSA S SPEECH, DETAILS OF ORGANIZATION OF MARCH AND SPECULATION ON FUTURE STRATEGY OF MQF OPPOSITION TO LAW 22. END SUMMARY.

2. MONTREAL GAZETTE PLACED MARCHERS AT 10,000 AND REPORTED UNCLASSIFIED

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DEFACING OF MONUMENTS, TAUNTING OF POLICE GUARDS AT NATIONAL

ASSEMBLY , HECKLING AND EGG THROWING AT LIBERALS AT GRAND THEATRE, RIOT SQUAD CLEARING WAY FOR BOURASSA TO ENTER THEATRE ABSENCE OF ARRESTS AND CASUALTIES AND COMPLETE SATISFACTION OF MQF PRESIDENT FRANCOIS-ALBERT ANGERS WITH THIS FIRST QUOTE CANNON SHOT UNQUOTE AGAINST LAW 22. RENE LEVESQUE, CLAUDE CHARRON AND MARCEL LEGER OF P.Q. AND FERNAND DAOUST OF FTQ ALL APPEARED BEFORE CROWD.

3. LE SOLEIL ARTICLE PLACING MARCHERS AT 16,000 REPORTED EVOLUTION OF STRATEGY BY ANGERS FROM EFFORT TO HAVE LAW WITHDRAWN, WHICH IMPRACTICABLE NOW, TO ATTACKS ON IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS AS INCOMPATIBLE WITH ARTICLE 1 OF LAW. ATTACKS TO BE MADE AT MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL LEVELS BY REGIONAL MFQ ORGANIZATIONS. NUCLEI FOR SUCH ORGANIZATIONS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE AT STEAHYACINTHE AND STALEONARD WITH OTHERS TO FOLLOW SOON AT SAGUENAY, SHAWINIGAN AND QUEBEC BECAUSE MONTREAL AND HULL ARE NOT THE ONLY PLACES WHERE FRANCOPHONE ELEMENT IS BEING ERODED. FTQ STRIKERS SENT TELEGRAM OF SUPPORT TO COLISEUM MEETING AND MOUVEMENT NATIONAL QUEBECOIS OF LEO JACQUES SENT MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO STRIKERS AT LONGUEUIL.

4. ANOTHER LE SOLEIL ARTICLE REPORTED BOURASSA SPEAKING TO 1500 LIBERALS AT DINNER HAD MINIMIZED MARCH CALLING IT A DISMAL FAILURE WHICH HAD ATTRACTED ONLY A FEW THOUSAND OUT OF A POPULATION OF SIX MILLION. HE CALLED IT A DEMAGOGIC ACTION TAKEN FOR PARTISAN AND PETTY REASONS BECAUSE SEPARATISTS FOUND IT HARD TO ADMIT LIBERAL PARTY OF QUEBEC HAD MADE FRENCH OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF QUEBEC. SEPARATISTS HAD EVEN BROUGHT IN FTQ AS IF THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS WITH FTQ THESE DAYS. BOURASSA WENT ON TO SAY FAILURE OF DEMONSTRATION PROVED CLEAR SIGHTEDNESS OF QUEBECOIS WHO DID NOT WANT PARTISAN MANEUVERS TO TAKE PLACE OF POLITICS. LIBERAL PARTY HAD MANDATE TO SERVE INTERESTS OF QUEBECOIS WHICH CAME FROM CITIZENS OF QUEBEC WHO HAD TO EXERCISED DEMOCRATIC RIGHT TO VOTE.

5. STILL ANOTHER LE SOLEIL ARTICLE CITED EFFECTIVENESS OF MARCHERS OWN MARSHALS, THEIR RAPID DISPERSAL AT END OF MARCH, SHORT STOP AT GRAND THEATRE AND USE OF 1800 CARS AND 154 BUSES TO BRING PEOPLE IN FROM OUTSIDE CITY.

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YM A FINAL ARTICLE DESCRIBED ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY OF MARCH AS ITS MOST UNEXPECTED ASPECT. A 24 PERSON QUOTE CIA UNQUOTE CONSISTING OF SECTIONS FOR GENERAL COORDINATION, PARADE MARSHALS, INFORMATION, JURIDICAL SERVICE AND TELEPHONE SERVICE REPRESENTED ORGANIZATIONAL DEPLOYMENT NOT SEEN SINCE 1969. FIVE COLUMNS APPROACHING QUEBEC BY ROAD MADE RADIO CONTACT INTO HEADQUARTERS WHEN SIXTY MILES DISTANT. FIFTEEN MOBILE RADIO UNITS WERE USED INCLUDING ONE EACH AT HEAD AND TAIL OF

EACH COLUMN. PARADE ROUTE HAD BEEN MEASURED OUT AND TIMED IN ADVANCE.

7. COMMENT. OUR INFORMATION CONFIRMS THAT DEMONSTRATION WENT OFF IN GOOD ORDER WITH NO VIOLENCE EXCEPT FOR BRIEF FLURRY AT GRAND THEATRE. QUEBEC GOVERNMENT HANDLED DEMONSTRATION WITH RESTRAINT AND OBVIOUSLY WAS NOT VERY CONCERNED ABOUT IT. ITEMS OF INTEREST EMERGING ARE APPARENT NEW MQF STRATEGY FOR OPPOSITION TO LAW 22 AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY SHOWN BY PLANNERS OF MARCH.

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